

ELA Strategies for Grades K-3

Vol. 1 Issue 8
October 2022

Instructional Strategies

Phonological Awareness

Phonological Awareness is the ability to hear and manipulate parts of spoken language. Skills are at a listening/auditory and spoken/verbal level. To facilitate the understanding of rhyme, read rhyming books, sing songs, and teach finger plays that contain rhyme. The skill of identifying rhyme (“Do these two words rhyme...?”) is a precursor to generating rhymes (“What rhymes with...?”).

Sentence game: say a sentence, “The cat is fat”. Tap the first 4 children on the head as you say each word of the sentence. Ask, “How many words?”, four! Repeat the sentence, or say a different sentence, as you go down the line of children.

Rhyme game: Say a few words that rhyme, “cat, fat, bat”. Prompt children to join in the game. You may need to prompt by saying some initial sounds: /p/ - at, /s/ - at, etc. Include silly words (/z/ - at) and blends (/th/ - at)!

Repeat the beginning sound game: /c/ - /c/ - cat, /c/ - /c/ - cake, /c/ - /c/ - car. Prompt children to join in with other words.

Game Ideas provided by [Learning Without Tears](#).

Assessment Strategies

Cork Board

It is always fun to use digital tools in the classroom, but sometimes a hands-on experience is better for our young students. Why not take a digital tool idea and create a tactile activity for your students! For example, Padlet is a digital tool that encourages all students in the class to participate in dialogue and collaboration. Turn a large cork board into a Padlet. Place the topic on the board, provide index cards or sticky notes to students, and allow them to place thoughts, ideas, questions, or new learnings on the board. Whenever students have a free moment, allow them to read the notes on the board and reply with another posting. This is a great idea to use during a book study. The board can serve as a formative assessment piece for you as your students progress through the reading. By having the board visible in the classroom, students can visit it at anytime, write a thought down immediately, and get some movement at the same time they are collaborating with others!



Classroom / Time Management Strategies

Flexible Seating

Flexible seating is exciting! Most students learn better when they have options that make them more comfortable in the classroom. Find some alternative seating options such as a stool (Super Stool), a chair (Comfy Chair), a rocking chair (Rocking Rocker). Use the special seating as an incentive for students. Catch students making good choices and allow them to have the special seat for the remainder of the lesson or day, whatever you choose!

The resources listed are provided as options and examples.

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